

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: VASUDEVA, Kailash C.  
Serial No.: 10/656,948  
Filed: January 12, 2001  
Title: EXHAUST SYSTEM FLANGES  
Group: 3677  
Examiner: RODRIGUEZ, Ruth C.  
Attorney Ref.: PAT 51403A-2 US

December 15, 2006

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia  
22314-1450  
U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

In response to the Office Action dated July 13, 2005, Applicant respectfully submits a three-month extension of time along with the responsive submission. Applicant also files a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.